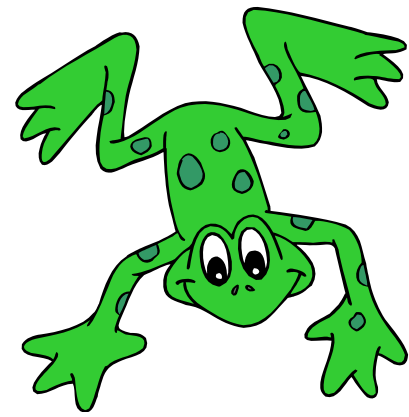


First Grade Leaps Into Learning

April 2011



Spring Fever and Reading

Now that spring has finally arrived, with its beautiful weather and longer days, as well as soccer and tee ball games, I realize it's much harder to make time for reading, but this is such a critical time for your child as we prepare to be "Super Second-Graders". Please make every effort to continue to fit schoolwork into your busy schedules.

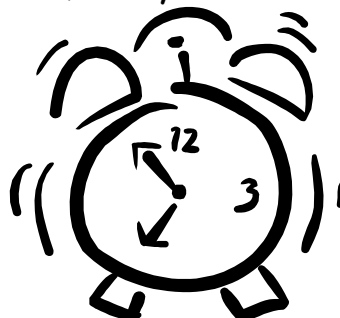
Math News

We have been working on place value, showing tens and ones (Math SOL 1.1), and skip counting (Math SOL 1.2). Your child should be able to:

- ✓ Group objects into tens and ones and write the corresponding numeral.
- ✓ Count forward by ones, twos, fives, and tens to 100, and backward by ones from 30.
- ✓ Write the numerals from 0-100.

Our next unit of study will be learning how to tell time to the hour and half hour (Math SOL 1.8). This will include digital and analog clocks. You can help your child with this skill by:

- going on a "Clock Hunt" and making him or her more aware of all of the clocks in your home and vehicles
- talking about how long it takes to do something
- giving your child a personal calendar, which measures longer periods of time such as days, weeks, months, and years to record special days and/or events in his or her life.



Science/Social Studies News

We have been learning about the seasonal changes associated with spring (Science SOL 1.7). We made a chart listing "SPRING CHANGES FOR . . . People, Plants, Animals, and Earth. Ask your child to name at least two examples of changes for each category. Be on the look-out for signs of spring at your house!

In April we will be learning about economics (Social Studies SOL 1.7, 1.8, 1.9). Students are expected to know that:

- Goods are things people make or use to satisfy needs or wants.
- Services are activities that satisfy people's needs and wants.
- A consumer is a person who uses money to purchase goods or services.
- A producer is a person who sells goods or services.
- People are both consumers and producers of goods and services.

People can choose to spend or save money. What a timely lesson!

Later in April we will be studying plants. Key concepts include needs of plants, parts of plants and their functions, and characteristics of plants (Science SOL 1.4). You can extend this concept by talking about how you use plants and/or their parts in everyday life for food, clothing, and shelter.

Shoe Alert

Mr. Nelson and Mrs. Vogt have asked me to remind you that all students must wear safe shoes for PE. **Everyone should wear safe shoes everyday because of daily recess.** Flip-flops are never to be worn to school.

Important Days in April

April 6 - End of 3rd Advisory

April 8 - Spring Book Fair opens

April 13- Report Cards Issued

April 13 -Evening Book Fair 4-7 pm & PTO Dinner-to-Go

April 16 - PTO Craft Fair & Flea Market

April 18 - Zoo Money and Permission Slips Due

April 21-25 - Spring Break

April 29 - Field Trip to Blandy Farm (9:00-1:30)

